

	BSL-1	BSL-2	BSL-2+	BSL-3
Work Practices				
Public access	Not recommended	Limit access to lab while BSL-2 work is being conducted	Restricted.	Not permitted.
Bench-top work	Permitted.	Permitted only for low-risk procedures	Not permitted for biohazardous materials	Not permitted for biohazardous materials
Decontamination	Daily and following any spill	Daily and following any spill	Daily; immediately following work with biohazardous materials, and following any spill	Daily; immediately following work with biohazardous materials, and following any spill
Eating, drinking applying lip balm, etc.	Permitted only in designated clean areas	Permitted only in approved and designated clean areas	Not permitted at any time. Food or drink may not be brought into or through lab.	Not permitted at any time. Food or drink may not be brought into or through lab.
Lab coats	Recommended	Required when work with BSL-2 is being conducted.	Required (wraparound disposable preferable)	Required (wraparound disposable required)
Personal Protective Equipment	Follow good lab practices.§	Required: Wear appropriate combinations of special protective clothing for all activities with biohazardous materials	Required: Wear appropriate combinations of special protective clothing for all activities with biohazardous materials	Required: Wear appropriate combinations of special protective clothing plus NIOSH N95 respirators or equivalent all activities with biohazardous materials
Biological Safety Cabinet (BSC)	Not required.	Required for all aerosol generated processes.	Required for all work with biohazardous agents.	Required for all work with biohazardous agents.
Storage Equipment	No Biohazard signs required	Biohazard signs required, all equipment must be labeled with contents	Biohazard signs required, all equipment must be labeled with contents	Biohazard signs required, all equipment must be labeled with contents
Physical containment	Decontaminate equipment immediately after use.	Use physical containment devices during procedures that have a high	Use physical containment devices (centrifuge safety cup,	Use physical containment devices (centrifuge safety cup,

		potential to create aerosols [⊕] when using biohazardous material. Decontaminate immediately after use.	sealed centrifuge rotor) for all activities using biohazardous material. Open containers in a BCS. Decontaminate immediately after use.	sealed centrifuge rotor) for all activities using biohazardous material. Open containers in a BCS. Decontaminate immediately after use.
Hand-washing facilities	Required.	Required.	Required (foot, elbow, or electronic activation preferable)	Required (foot, elbow, or electronic activation required)
Pipetting	Only mechanical device	Only mechanical device	Only mechanical device	Only mechanical device
HEPA-filtered vacuum lines.	Recommended.	Required.	Required.	Required.

§ For a description of Good Laboratory Practices, go to: [Good Lab Practices BSL-1.pdf](#)

⊕ Procedures include but not limited to: centrifuging, grinding, blending, vigorous shaking or mixing, sonic disruption, opening containers of biohazardous materials after above procedures